



# Professional Development G-7 Enlisted Training



**PLDC**

**Basic Ceremonies  
Retreats and Reveilles**



# Professional Development G-7 Enlisted Training



## Overview

- **Retreat History**
- **Retreat Sequence of Events**



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## Overview Continued

- **Reveille History**
- **Reveille Sequence of Events**



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## Retreat Ceremony



# Retreat History



**The term “retreat” is taken from the French word “retraite” and refers to the evening ceremony. The bugle call sounded at retreat was first used in the French army and dates back to the Crusades. Retreat was sounded at sunset to notify sentries to start challenging until sunrise, and to tell the rank and file to go to their quarters.**



# Retreat History



**The ceremony remains as a tradition. The old cavalry call “To the Standard,” in use from about 1835, has been replaced by the present call of “To the Color.” This remains as music honoring the flag as it is lowered in the evening.**





# Sequence of Events



**The unit is formed facing the flag five minutes before the sounding of retreat.**

**Four minutes before the sounding of retreat, the adjutant or other appointed officer takes his position centered on and facing the line of troops and commands Battalion/Company, "ATTENTION" and then "Parade, REST".**



# Sequence of Events



**The adjutant faces about and executes Parade Rest.**

**On the last note of retreat, the evening gun is fired.**





# Sequence of Events



**The adjutant then comes to Attention, faces about, and commands Battalion/Company, “ATTENTION” and “Present, ARMS” so that the unit is at Present Arms when the first note of “To the Color” or the National Anthem is sounded.**



# Sequence of Events



**The adjutant then faces about and executes Present Arms.**

**The adjutant's Salute is the signal for the band to begin playing "To the Color."**



# Sequence of Events



**At the last note of “To the Color” or the National Anthem, the adjutant faces about, commands “Order, ARMS”, and then directs “TAKE CHARGE OF YOUR UNITS”.**



# Sequence of Events



**Unit commanders render the Hand Salute.**

**The adjutant returns all Salutes with one Salute. This terminates the retreat formation.**



# Sequence of Events



## **NOTE:**

**When subordinate units stand retreat, not as a part of a major command, the sequence is the same except the unit commander gives the commands.**



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## Reveille Ceremony





# Reveille History



**Reveille was not originally intended as honors to the flag. In 1812, it was a drum call to signify that soldiers should rise for day duty and sentries should leave off night challenging. As time passed, reveille came to denote when the flag was raised in the morning and honors paid to it.**



# Reveille Sequence of Events



**The unit is formed facing the flag five minutes before the sounding of reveille.**

**Four minutes before the sounding of reveille, the adjutant or other appointed officer (normally the duty officer) takes his position centered on the line of troops, commands the unit to "ATTENTION", and commands "REPORT".**



# Reveille Sequence of Events



**All subunits (companies, batteries, or troops) report in succession from right to left,**

**“Sir, \_\_\_\_\_ company all present or accounted for,”**

**or**

**“Sir, \_\_\_\_\_ Company, \_\_\_\_\_ men absent.”**

**Salutes are exchanged with each report.**



# Reveille Sequence of Events



**The adjutant commands “Parade, REST” and then assumes Parade Rest himself.**

**If a band is present, about 30 seconds before reveille, the adjutant commands “ATTENTION”, directs SOUND REVEILLE, commands “Present, ARMS”, and then faces about.**

**The adjutant’s Salute is the signal for the band to sound reveille and to fire the morning gun.**

**When reveille is sounded by a recording, the call “ATTENTION” is sounded about 30 seconds before reveille.**

**This ensures that the adjutant has sufficient time to command the units to “Present, ARMS” before the first note of reveille.**



# Reveille Sequence of Events



**After the last note of reveille has sounded, the adjutant terminates his Salute, faces about, commands "Order, ARMS", and then directs "TAKE CHARGE OF YOUR UNITS".**

**The adjutant returns all Salutes with one Salute.**

**This terminates the ceremony.**



# Reveille Sequence of Events



## **NOTE:**

**When a unit conducts the reveille ceremony not as a member of a major command, battalion, or company, the sequence of events remains the same except the unit commander gives all commands.**





# Retreat and Reveille Sequence of Events



**TEST**